

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

(1) JOY K. BURNIDGE,

Plaintiff.

JUN **1 9** 2012 Phil Lombardi, Clerk U.S. DISTRICT COURT

v.

- (1) BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER and
- (2) ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

Defendants.

12 CV - 34 5 GKF TLW

## ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a), Defendant, Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company ("Allmerica"), hereby files the following Notice of Removal and would show the Court as follows:

I.

Plaintiff commenced this action on October 31, 2011, against Defendants, Allmerica and Barbara Eloise Hunter ("Hunter") in the District Court in and for Tulsa County, Oklahoma. This action was numbered CJ-2011-6563. The following process, pleadings, and orders have been served or filed in such action, and are attached as Exhibits "1" through "12."

- 1. Petition.
- 2. Summons to Hunter.
- 3. Order of Dismissal for Failure to Obtain Service Within 180 Days.
- 4. Plaintiff's Motion to Vacate Order of Dismissal.
- 5. Summons to Allmerica.
- 6. Entry of Appearance on Behalf of Allmerica.



- 7. Dismissal With Prejudice as to Hunter.
- 8. Order Vacating Dismissal for Failure to Obtain Service within 180 days.
- 9. Joint Motion to Stay Proceedings.
- 10. Order Granting Stay of Proceedings.
- 11. Entry of Appearance (Dan S. Folluo for Allmerica).
- Entry of Appearance (Randall E. Long for Allmerica).

II.

This Court has jurisdiction over this case and removal is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 and 28 U.S.C. § 1441. In her Petition, Plaintiff alleges to be a citizen of Oklahoma. Allmerica is alleged to be a foreign corporation, and is in fact a Michigan corporation with its principal place of business in Massachusetts. Hunter is alleged to be an Oklahoma citizen, but was dismissed with prejudice and is no longer a party to this action.

Plaintiff's Petition seeks to recover damages for personal injuries resulting from a July 12, 2010, automobile accident with Hunter. The accident is alleged to have occurred in Tulsa County. Specifically, Plaintiff seeks to recover underinsured motorist benefits under an insurance policy issued by Allmerica. Plaintiff alleges that Allmerica has not honored its obligations under the insurance policy and has thus breached its contract with Plaintiff. Plaintiff seeks to recover in damages an amount equal to the limits of the uninsured motorist coverage, or \$250,000.00, plus costs, interest and attorney fees. Therefore, this is a controversy between citizens of different states, and the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds \$75,000, making this case removable under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 and § 1441.

This action became removable to federal court upon the May 23, 2012, filing of a dismissal as to the only non-diverse defendant, Hunter. This Notice of Removal is being filed within thirty (30) days after said dismissal, thus, removal of this action is timely and satisfies the requirement of 28 USC § 1446(b).1

IV.

Contemporaneous with the filing of this Notice of Removal, Allmerica is giving the District Court in and for Tulsa County, Oklahoma, written notice of the same in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "13." A certified copy of the state court docket sheet is attached as Exhibit "14."

Respectfully submitted

By

DAN S. FOLLUO, BA# 11303
dfolluo@rhodesokla.com
RANDALL E. LONG, OBA #22216
rlong@rhodesokla.com
RHODES, HIERONYMUS, JONES,
TUCKER & GABLE
P.O. Box 21100
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74121-1100
(918) 582-1173
(918) 592-3390 Facsimile
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT
INSURANCE COMPANY

<sup>1</sup> Congress recently amended § 1446, but those amendments only apply to actions commenced after January 6, 2012. *See* P.L. 112-63, 105.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the  $\frac{1}{2}$  day of June, 2012, I electronically transmitted the foregoing document to the Clerk of the Court using ECF System for filing and transmittal of a Notice of Electronic Filing to the following ECF registrants:

Douglas Elliott 6506 South Lewis Avenue, Suite 175 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136 Attorneys for Plaintiff

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA DISTRICT COURT OCT 31 2011

JOY K. BURNIDGE,	) SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK STATE OF OKLA, TULSA COUNTY
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	C. No. 2011-00563
BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT	) ) )
INSURANCE COMPANY,	inda G. Morrissey
Defendants.	)

#### **PETITION**

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Joy K. Burnidge, by and through her attorney of record, Douglass R. Elliott, and for her causes of action against the Defendants, Barbara Eloise Hunter and Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company, hereby alleges and states as follows:

- 1. That the Plaintiff is a resident of Tulsa, Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma. That the Defendant, Barbara Eloise Hunter, is a resident of Tulsa, Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma. That the Defendant, Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company, is a foreign corporation doing business in the State of Oklahoma. That the automobile accident giving rise to this action occurred in Tulsa, Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma, thus making jurisdiction of this Court just and proper.
- 2. That on or about July 12, 2010, the Plaintiff was lawfully operating her vehicle westbound in the inside lane of East 71<sup>st</sup> Street near South Sheridan Road in Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma. The Defendant was traveling westbound in the middle

EXHIBIT

go-ahead lane of East 71<sup>st</sup> Street near South Sheridan Road when she attempted to change lanes and carelessly, recklessly, and negligently collided with the Plaintiff's vehicle.

#### **COUNT I**

- 3. Plaintiff re-alleges and re-incorporates all allegations contained in Paragraphs 1-2.
- 4. That as a direct and proximate result of the Defendant Hunter's negligence, the Plaintiff has suffered serious physical and mental injuries, has incurred and continues to incur medical expenses, has endured and continues to endure both physical and mental pain and suffering, last lost wages, has lost the enjoyment of life, all of which will be more particularly proven at trial and entitle the Plaintiff to collect a sum in excess of the amount required for diversity jurisdiction pursuant to Section 1332 of Title 28 of the United States Code from the Defendant, Barbara Eloise Hunter.

#### **COUNT II**

- 5. Plaintiff re-alleges and re-incorporates all allegations contained in Paragraphs 1-4.
- 6. That at all times relevant hereto, the Plaintiff insured under an uninsured/under-insured motorist (UM/UIM) automobile insurance policy issued by Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company (hereinafter referred to as "Allmerica"), said policy bearing the number A2T-5700344, and said policy was in effect on the date of the collision with Defendant Hunter.

- 7. As a result of Defendant Hunter's negligent operation of a vehicle on or about July 12, 2010, the Plaintiff suffered serious bodily injuries, has incurred and continues to incur medical expenses and has lost wages.
- 8. At the time of the collision, Defendant Hunter was an uninsured motorist as defined by Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes, Section 3636, and creates a situation where the UIM policy applies in providing coverage to the Plaintiff.
- 9. That the Plaintiff has demanded that Defendant Allmerica tender its policy limits, but Defendant Allmerica has failed to honor its contract and has failed to tender the benefits the Plaintiff is entitled to receive pursuant to contract.
- 10. That Defendant Allmerica has failed to timely and fairly investigate, evaluate and tender the evaluation due under the policy.
- 11. That Defendant Allmerica has breached its contract of insurance and has wholly refused or neglected to pay the Plaintiff the value of her uncompensated damages. Said failure constitutes a breach of contract of said insurance policy, and the Plaintiff is entitled to judgment for contractual damages against Defendant Allmerica in the amount of the maximum limits of the UM/UIM policy.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this Court award her damages in excess of the amount required for diversity jurisdiction pursuant to Section 1332 of Title 28 of the United States Codes from the Defendant, Barbara Eloise Hunter, and contractual damages from Defendant Allmerica in the amount of maximum limits of the said

UM/UIM policy, including attorney's fees, costs, interest, and any such further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE, P.C.

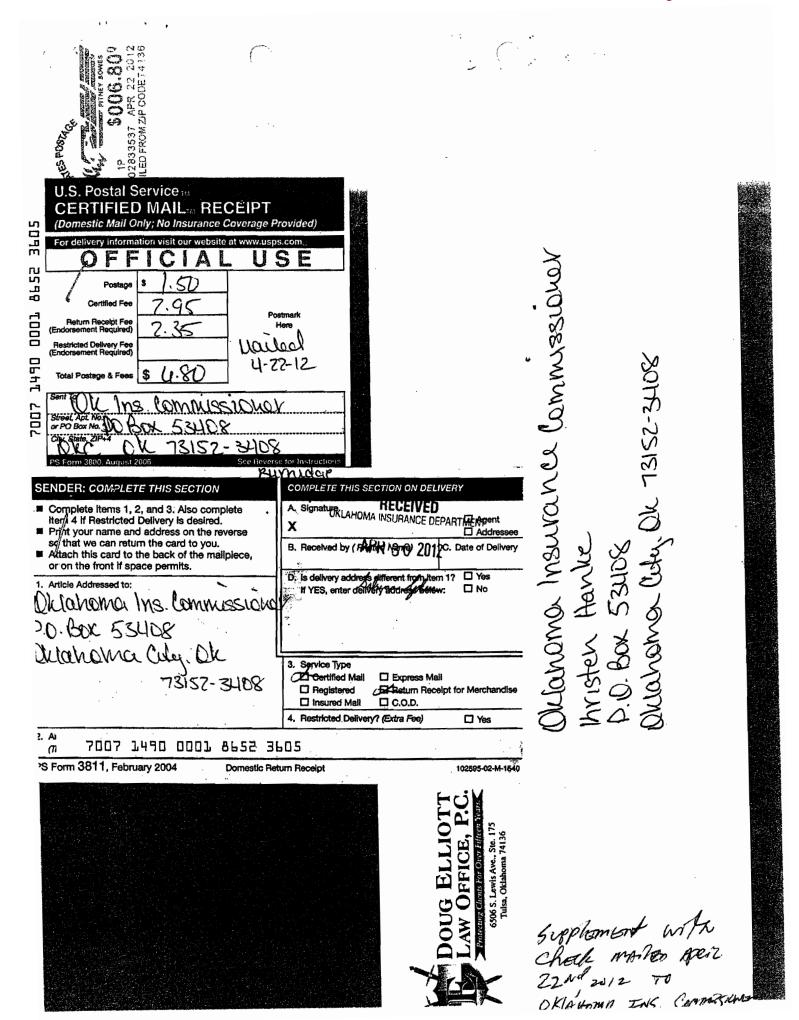
Douglass R. Ellott, OBA #15152 6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175

Tulsa, OK 74136

Telephone: (918) 949-4466 Facsimile: (918) 895-9222

ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF

ATTORNEY'S LIEN CLAIMED



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102595-02-M-1540

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COU STATE OF OKLAHOMA JOY K. BURNIDGE, Plaintiff, CJ-2011-06563 VS. BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY, DISTRICT COURT Defendants. APR 20 2012 **SUMMONS** SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK To the above named Defendant: BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER STATE OF OKLA. TULBA COUNTY By Serving: 8003 S. Wheeling Ave., Unit H Tulsa, OK 74136 You have been sued by the above-named Plaintiff and you are directed to file a written Answer to the attached Petition in the above-named Court within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you - excluding the date of service. Within the same time, a copy of your Answer must be delivered or mailed to the attorney for the Plaintiff. SALLY HOWE-SMITH, COURT CLERK (SEAL) Ву: Deputy Court Clerk Attorney for Plaintiff: Douglass R. Elliott, OBA No. 15152 DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE, P.C. 6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175 Tulsa, OK 74136 (918) 949-4466 Telephone: Facsimile: (918) 895-9222 E-Mail: doug@dougelliottlaw.com This Summons was served on the 19 day of APRIL

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER CONNECTED WITH THIS SUIT OR YOUR ANSWER. SUCH ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED IMMEDIATELY SO THAT AN ANSWER MAY BE FILED WITHIN THE TIMESTATED IN THE SUMMONS.

EXHIBIT

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Case 4:12-cv-	00345-GKF-tlw Document 2 Filed in USDC ND/OK on 06/19/12 Page 12 of 3 ,
PLAINTIFF:	JOY K. BURNID CASE NO: CJ-2011-06563
DEFENDANT:	BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY,
DOCUMENTS SE	RVED: I, being duly sworn, certify that I received the foregoing to wit:
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Affidavit/Orde	er
Other:	
PERSONAL SER	RVICE: And served the same according to the law in the following manner to wit: VICE a true copy of said process personally to  Barbara Eloise Hunter  Time: 3:54 PM
Location: 5527	S. Cincinnati Ave. Tulsa,OK. 74105 Date: 04/19/2012
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Which is his/her	usual place of residence. Date: Time:
CORPORATION/	PARTNERSHIP, ETC.
by delivering	a copy of said process to he/she/it, being the service agent,
agent in charge, an	officer or partner of said entity to wit:
Location:	Date: Time:
NOT FOUND said process	WAS NOT SERVED on following named for reasons stated:
Process Server:	Allen Terrill PSS-2009-46 Allen Ilmil
Note:	Barbara no longer lives at - 8003 S. Wheeling Ave. Unit H Tulsa, OK. 74136. She now resides at address where service was made.
SIGNATURE OF	NOTARY PUBLIC:
Subscribed and swo	m to before me this 19th Day of April, 2012
Signed & um	1.
	Notary Public
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NOTARY PUBLIC -	OKLAHOMA

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## DISTRICT COURT F | L E D

MAY 1 1 2012

TO:	SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK BINTE OF DINA: THESE SOURTY
DOUGLAS R ELLIOTT DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE 6506 S LEWIS AVE SUITE 175 TULSA, OK 74103	

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY K BURNIDGE, Plaintiff, vs. BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER, et al, Defendant(s).

Case #: CJ-2011-6563

Judge: Linda G. Morrissey

#### ORDER OF DISMISSAL FOR FAILURE TO OBTAIN SERVICE WITHIN 180 DAYS

Pursuant to an examination of the files and docket sheet, it appears that more than one hundred eighty (180) days have elapsed since the filing of the petition in this case without service being made on Defendant(s)

ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY; and that the action should be dismissed as to these Defendants(s) pursuant to 12 Oklahoma Statutes Section 2004(I).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED in accordance with 12 Oklahoma Statutes Section 2004(I) that the above-entitled action is hereby dismissed without prejudice as to above named Defendant(s).

<u>5.11.12</u>	MIONISH
Dated	Judge of the District Court
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the following persons, and filed a true and correct cor	by in this case.
To: DOUGLAS R ELLIOTT, Doug Elliott Law Office,	
	Deputy Court Clerk

EXHIBIT





### IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY BURNIDGE,		DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,	) )	FILED
vs.	Case No. CJ-2011-6563	MAY 1 6 2012
BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT	Judge: Linda g. Morrissey	SALLY HOME SHITE CHIEF CLERK
INSURANCE COMPANY,		

Defendants.

# MOTION TO VACATE ORDER OF DISMISSAL FOR FAILURE TO OBTAIN SERVICE WITHIN 180 DAYS AGAINST DEFENDANT ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Joy Burnidge, by and through her attorney of record,

Douglass R. Elliott, and in support of her Motion to Vacate Order of Dismissal for fathere to
obtain service within 180 days against Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance

Company, hereby alleges and states good cause as follows:

Service has been timely achieved with Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company on April 30, 2012, which is the 180<sup>th</sup> day from the date of the filing of the Petition and Summons. Plaintiff made a good faith effort and achieved service timely, as evidenced by the following actions, with documents attached hereto to support:

Plaintiff mailed the Petition and Summons for service to the Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner on April 9, 2012. Subsequently, a required \$20.00 fee was mailed to the Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner on April 22, 2012, and on April 30, 2012 the service of Summons and Petition was achieved as evidenced by the attached domestic return receipt ("green card") signed received by the Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner.

EXHIBIT

4

Plaintiff has demonstrated good cause that the Petition and Summons were timely mailed to and received by the Oklahoma Insurance Commission, thereby establishing that service was indeed made within the required 180 day timeframe. Plaintiff apologizes to the Court for not filing the return of Service prior to the Court reviewing the file.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this Court vacate the Order of Dismissal for Failure to Obtain Service within 180 Days as to the Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company, as Plaintiff has shown good cause and that service was achieved within 180 days of the filing of the Petition and Summons.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE B.C

Douglass R. Elliott, OBA #151/

6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175

Tulsa, OK 74136

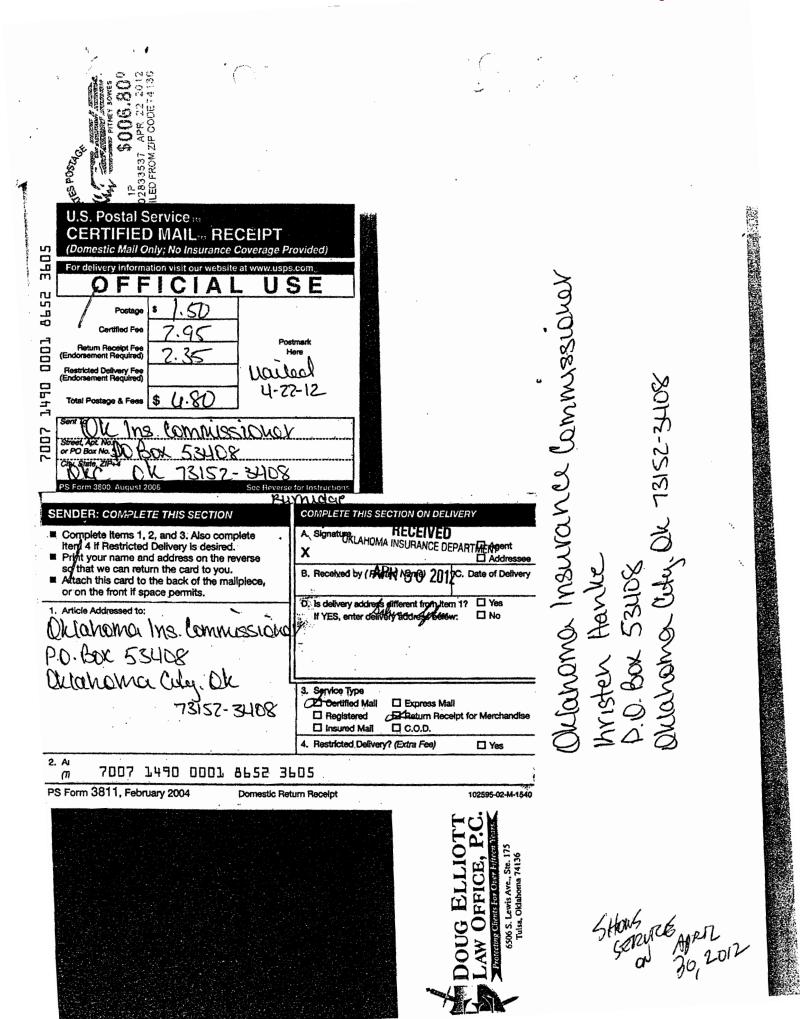
Telephone:

(918) 949-4466

Facsimile:

(918) 895-9222

ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF





#### Doug Elliott Law Office, P.C.

6506 South Lewis Avenue, Suite 175 TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74136 TELEPHONE: (918) 949-4466 TOLL FREE: (866) 365-5542 FACSIMILE: (918) 895-9222

www.dougelliottlaw.com

Email: doug@dougelliottlaw.com 24 Hour Direct Line: 918-521-4955

April 22, 2012

Kristen Hanke Insurance Commissioner State of Oklahoma P.O. Box 53408 Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3408

Joy Burnidge v. Barbara Eloise Hunter, et al.,

Tulsa Co.; CJ-2011-6563

Dear Ms. Hanke:

Enclosed please find three (3) copies of Plaintiff's Petition and Summons regarding the above-referenced action. Additionally, enclosed is a check in the amount of \$20.00 to cover the charge of serving these documents. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

DRE:mlm

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#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNT STATE OF OKLAHOMA JOY K. BURNIDGE, Plaintiff, **Ci-20**11-06563 VS. BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and DISTRICT COURT ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY, MAY 1 6 2012 Defendants. **SUMMONS** To the above named Defendant: ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY By Serving: State Insurance Commissioner P.O. Box 53408 Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3408 You have been sued by the above-named Plaintiff and you are directed to file a written Answer to the attached Petition in the above-named Court within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you - excluding the date of service. Within the same time, a copy of your Answer must be delivered or mailed to the attorney for the Plaintiff. SALLY HOWE-SMITH, COURT CLERK (SEAL) Deputy Court Clerk Attorney for Plaintiff: Douglass R. Elliott, OBA No. 15152 DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE, P.C. 6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175 Tulsa, OK 74136 (918) 949-4466 (918) 895-9222

Telephone:

Facsimile:

E-Mail:

doug@dougelliottlaw.com

This Summons was served on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_

f Person Serving Summons)

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER CONNECTED WITH THIS SUIT YOUR ANSWER. SUCH ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED IMMEDIATELY SO THAT AN ANSWER MAY BE FILED WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT STATED IN THE SUMMONS.

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## IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY K. BURNIDGE	)		
Plaintiff, v.	)	CJ-2011-6563	DISTRICT COURT
BARBARA ELOISE HUNDER, and	) )	Judge Linda Morrissey	MAY 2 3 2012
ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY	)		SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK STATE OF OKLA, TULSA COUNTY
Defendants	)		

## ENTRY OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

COMES NOW, John J. Bowling, and enters his appearance on behalf of the

Defendant, Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company.

Respectfully submitted:

John J. Bowling, OBA No. (681

The Hanover Law Office

5100 E. Skelly Drive, Suite 400A

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

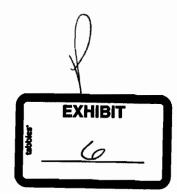
918/619-1690

508/926-5560 facsimile

jbowling@hanover.com

Attorney for Allmerica Financial

Benefit



#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that on the \_\_\_\_\_day of May, 2012, I deposited a true and correct copy of the foregoing document via U.S. Mail to:

Douglas Elliott
Doug Elliott Law Office
6506 S. Lewis Avenue
Suite 175
Tulsa, OK 74103
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

John J. Bowling

#### CONSENT TO SERVICE VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS

I hereby certify that I consent to receiving service in this matter via electronic means by

either of the following methods:

jbowling@hanover.com

or

580-926-5560

John J. Bowling





#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY BURNIDGE,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
vs.	) Case No. CJ-2011-6563
BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT	) Judge: Linda g. Morrissey TRICT COURT ) F L E D
INSURANCE COMPANY,	MAY 2 3 2012
Defendants.	SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK STATE OF OKLA, TULSA COUNTY

#### DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE OF DEFENDANT HUNTER ONLY

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Joy Burnidge, by and through her attorney of record, Douglass R. Elliott, and DISMISSES WITH PREJUDICE her claims against the Defendant Barbara Eloise Hunter ONLY; Plaintiff maintains her action against Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE, P.C.

Douglass R. Elliott, OBA #15152 6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175

Tulsa, OK 74136

Telephone:

(918) 949-4466 Facsimile: (918) 895-9222

ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF

**EXHIBIT** 





## IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY BURNIDGE,	)	DISTRICT
Plaintiff,	)	FILE D
vs.	) Case No. CJ-2011-6563 ) Judge: Linda g. Morrissey	MAY 2 3 2012
BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY,	) ) )	STATE BY BALL TURN BUSINESS

Defendants.

## ORDER VACATING DISMISSAL FOR FAILURE TO OBTAIN SERVICE WITHIN 180 DAYS AGAINST DEFENDANT ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Order of Dismissal for Failure to Obtain Service Within 180 Days against Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company is Vacated as Plaintiff has shown good cause by demonstrating that Service was achieved within the required 180 days.

HONORABLE LINDA G. MORRISSEY

012 MAY 23 PM 12: 44

EXHIBIT Section 1





## IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COURT IN STATE OF OKLAHOMA

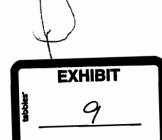
JOY K. BURNIDGE,	) JUN -1 2012
Plaintiff,	SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK STATE OF OKLA, TULSA COUNTY
vs.	Case No.: CJ-2011-06563 Judge: Linda G. Morrisey
BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and	)
ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT	j
INSURANCE COMPANY,	)
•	)
	)
Defendant.	)

#### JOINT MOTION TO STAY PROCEEDINGS

COME NOW, Plaintiff Joy Burnidge and Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company by and through their attorneys and jointly request an Order of the Court to stay the case for 180 days. In support of this motion the parties would show the Court the following:

- 1. This action was filed on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2011 in order to protect Plaintiff's then existing rights from a law change going into effect on November 1, 2011.
- 2. This action arises out of an accident in which Plaintiff was injured and negotiations are ongoing.
- 3. Plaintiff anticipates being able to settle her injury claims with Defendant Allmerica Financial Insurance Company, and has resolved her claims with Defendant Hunter.
- 4. Plaintiff and Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company believe that litigation beyond initial filing and service would be against the interests of judicial economy while negotiations are ongoing. Should negotiations fail, the parties





agree to extend the deadline for Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company to file its Answer.

Based on the above information, Plaintiff and Defendant asks that the Court place the case on hold until further notice and not dismiss it under Rule 9 or any other rule. A proposed order is attached for the Court's convenience.

Respectfully submitted:

Douglass R. Elliot OBA 15152

Doug Elliott Law Office

6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175

Tulsa, OK 74136 (918) 949-4466

(918) 895-9222

Attorney for Plaintiff

John J. Bowling, OBA #16811

THE HANOVER LAW OFFICE

5100 E. Skelly Drive

Suite 400A

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

918/619-1690 direct

508/926-5560 facsimile

ibowling@hanover.com

Attorney for Allmerica Financial

Benefit Insurance Company

Case 4:12-cv-00345-GKF-tlw Document 2 Filed in U	JSDC ND/OK on 06/19/12_ Page 2 <u>7</u> of 38
IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN ANI	FOR TULSA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLA	HOMA JUN ~ 8 2012
STATE OF OKLA	8 PM 2: 14
JOY K. BURNIDGE,	SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK
Plaintiff,	BIATE OF DALA TU SA DOUNTY
riminuit,	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
vs.	) Case No.: CJ-2011-06563
	) Judge: Linda G. Morrisey
BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and	)
ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT	)
INSURANCE COMPANY,	)
	)
Defendant.	)
Degendant.	,
ORDER	•
UNDER	
THIS MATTER comes before the Court pursuan	nt to the Joint Motion of Plaintiff and
Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance	e. For good cause shown, the Court
believes it is in the interest of judicial economy to	grant the Motion in Part.
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED	AND DECREED that this action is
hereby stayed for the ty (3) days from	om the date of this Order.
Dated:	

**EXHIBIT** 

Approved:

Douglas R. Elliot, OBA 15152

Doug Elliott Law Office

6506 S. Lewis Ave., Suite 175

Tulsa, OK 74136 (918) 949-4466

(918) 895-9222

Attorney for Plaintiff

John J. Bowling, OBA #16811

THE HANOVER LAW OFFICE

5100 E. Skelly Drive

Suite 400A

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

918/619-1690 direct

508/926-5560 facsimile

jbowling@hanover.com

Attorney for Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT WITHIN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY LED

JOY K. BURNIDGE,

JUN 1 9 2012

Plaintiff.

SALLY HOWE SMITH COHET CLERK STATE OF ORLA: THE SA GOLDEN

v.

BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

Defendants.

Case No. CJ-2011-06563 Judge Linda G. Morrissey

#### **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

COMES NOW Dan S. Folluo of the Law Firm of Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable and enters his appearance as counsel of record for the Defendant, Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company, pursuant to Title 12 O.S. §2005.2(a).

Respectfully submitted,

By:

DAN S. FOLLUO, OBA #11303
RANDALL E. LONG, OBA #22216
RHODES, HIERONYMUS, JONES,
TUCKER & GABLE, P.L.L.C.
P.O. Box 21100
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74121
Phone (918) 582-1173
Facsimile (918) 592-3390
dfolluo@rhodesokla.com
rlong@rhodesokla.com
ATTORNEYS ALLMERICA FINANCIAL
BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

EXHIBIT

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Mr. Douglas Elliott, OBA #15152 6506 South Lewis Avenue, Suite 175 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136 Attorneys for Plaintiff

DAN S. FOLLUO/RANDALL E. LONG

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT WITHIN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY DISTRICT COURT STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY K. BURNIDGE,

JUN 1 9 2012

Plaintiff.

ν.

BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

Defendants.

Case No. CJ-2011-06563 Judge Linda G. Morrissey

#### **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

COMES NOW Randall E. Long of the Law Firm of Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable and enters his appearance as counsel of record for the Defendant, Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company, pursuant to Title 12 O.S. §2005.2(a).

By:

DAN S. FOLLUO, OBA #11303 RANDALL E. LONG, OBA #22216 RHODES, HIERONYMUS, JONES, TUCKER & GABLE, P.L.L.C. P.O. Box 21100 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74121

Phone (918) 582-1173 Facsimile (918) 592-3390 dfolluo@rhodesokla.com

rlong@rhodesokla.com

Respectfully submitted,

ATTORNEYS ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Mr. Douglas Elliott, OBA #15152 6506 South Lewis Avenue, Suite 175 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136 Attorneys for Plaintiff

DAN SÆOLLOO/RANDALL E. LONG

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT WITHIN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JOY K. BURNIDGE,

Plaintiff.

v.

BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER; and ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

Defendants.

Case No. CJ-2011-06563 Judge Linda G. Morrissey

#### **NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION TO FEDERAL COURT**

Pursuant to Title 28 of the United States Code, Section 1446(d), Defendant Allmerica Financial Benefit Insurance Company gives notice of the filing of Notice of Removal, removing this action from this Court to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. A copy of the Notice of Removal, filed this day in federal court, is attached hereto as Exhibit "1."

No further action need be taken by this Court, other than forwarding a complete copy of the record of this action to the United States District Court, unless and until this action is remanded to this Court. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

DAN S. FOLLUO OBA #11303
RANDALL E. LONG, OBA #22216
RHODES, HIERONYMUS, JONES,
TUCKER & GABLE, P.L.L.C.
P.O. Box 21100
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74121
Phone (918) 582-1173
Facsimile (918) 592-3390
dfolluo@rhodesokla.com
rlong@rhodesokla.com
ATTORNEYS ALLMERICA FINANCIAL
BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on	$\underline{\hspace{0.5cm}}$ , 2012, the above was sent via U.S. Mail to the
helow counsel of record.	

Mr. Douglas Elliott, OBA #15152 6506 South Lewis Avenue, Suite 175 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136 Attorneys for Plaintiff

DAN S. FOLLUO/RANDALL E. LONG

Case 4:12-cv-00345-GKF-tlw Document 2 Filed in USDC ND/OK on 06/19/12 Page 35 of 38 OCIS Case Summary for CJ-2011-6563- BURNIDGE, JOY K v. HUNTER, BARBARA ... Page 1 of 5

## SCN THE OKLAHOMA STATE COURTS NETWORK

Home Courts Court Dockets Legal Research Calendar

The information on this page is NOT an official record. Do not rely on the correctness or completeness of this information. Verify all information with the official record keeper. The information contained in this report is provided in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Records Act, <u>51 O.S. 24A.1</u>. Use of this information is governed by this act, as well as other applicable state and federal laws.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

JOY K BURNIDGE,

Plaintiff,

٧.

BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER,

Defendant, and

ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE

COMPANY,

Defendant.

No. CJ-2011-6563

(Civil relief more than \$10,000:

Help

AUTO NEGLIGENCE)

Filed: 10/31/2011

Judge: Morrissey, Linda G.

#### **Parties**

ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY, Defendant BURNIDGE, JOY K, Plaintiff HUNTER, BARBARA ELOISE, Defendant

#### **Attorneys**

**Attorney** 

BOWLING, JOHN J(Bar # 16811) 5100 EAST SKELLY DRIVE SUITE 400A TULSA, OK 74135

ELLIOTT, DOUGLAS R(Bar # 15152) DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE 6506 S LEWIS AVE SUITE 175 TULSA, OK 74103 Represented Parties

ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE

COMPANY,

BURNIDGE, JOY K

**Events** 

**Event** 

**Party** 

**Docket** 

Reporter

Issues

For cases filed before 1/1/2000, ancillary issues may not appear except in the docket.

**Issue # 1.** 

Issue: AUTO NEGLIGENCE (AUTONEG)

Filed by: BURNIDGE, JOY K Filed Date: 10/31/2011

Party Name:

**Disposition Information:** 

<u>Defendant:</u> ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFITDisposed: DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE,

INSURANCE COMPANY 05/11/2012. Dismissed by Court.

Defendant: ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFITDisposed: VACATED (ORDER OR JUDGMENT),

INSURANCE COMPANY 05/16/2012. Other.

**EXHIBIT** 

14

<u>Defendant:</u> ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFITPending. INSURANCE COMPANY

**Defendant:** HUNTER, BARBARA ELOISE

Disposed: DISMISSED - WITH PREJUDICE, 05/23/2012. Dismissed- Settled.

#### **Docket**

Date	Code	Count	Party	Serial #	Entry Date		
10-31-2011		1		79794631	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:630PM	-	\$ 0.00
	CIVIL RELIEF M	IORE THA	N \$10,000 INITIAL F	ILING.	And the second s	eggendergenstellen og en	and the grand control of the control
10-31-2011	AUTONEG	-		79794633	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:670PM	Realized	\$ 0.00
	AUTO NEGLIGE	NCE			1.32.21.07 OF W		
10-31-2011	DMFE	-		79794634	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:680PM	Realized	\$ 2.00
	DISPUTE MEDI	ATION FE	E(\$ 2.00)		1.52.21.000PM		,
10-31-2011	PFE1			79794635	Oct 31 2011	Realized	\$ 163.00
	PETITION(\$ 163	3.00)			3:15:35:477PM		<b>4</b> 100,00
			Court Clerk's Office				
10-31-2011	PFE7	-		79794636	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:680PM	Realized	\$ 6.00
	LAW LIBRARY I	EE(\$ 6.00	0)		1.32.21.000FW		
10-31-2011	OCISR	-		79794637	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:680PM	Realized	\$ 25.00
	OKLAHOMA CO	URT INFO	ORMATION SYSTEM	REVOLVING		)	
10-31-2011	LTF	-		79794638	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:740PM	Realized	\$ 10.00
	LENGTHY TRIA	L FUND(\$	10.00)		1.02.21.740FW		
10-31-2011	SMF	-		79794639	Oct 31 2011 1:52:44:500PM	Realized	\$ 10.00
	SUMMONS FEE	(CLERKS	S FEE) -2-(\$ 10.00)		1.02.44.000FW		
10-31-2011	SMIMA	-		79794640	Oct 31 2011 1:52:50:890PM	Realized	\$ 0.00
	SUMMONS ISS	UED - MA	ILED BY ATTORNEY	′ -2-	1.32.30.030F N		
10-31-2011	TEXT		Committee of the second	79794632	Oct 31 2011 1:52:21:650PM		\$ 0.00
	OCIS HAS AUT	OMATICA	LLY ASSIGNED JUD	GE MORRIS		TO THIS CAS	
10-31-2011	ACCOUNT	-		79794661	Oct 31 2011 1:53:10:560PM	and the second s	\$ 0.00
	DECEIDT # 201	4 000000	001 40/04/0044				

RECEIPT # 2011-2230602 ON 10/31/2011.

PAYOR:DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID: \$216.00.

LINE ITEMS:

CJ-2011-6563: \$173.00 ON AC01 CLERK FEES. CJ-2011-6563: \$6.00 ON AC23 LAW LIBRARY FEE.

CJ-2011-6563: \$2.00 ON AC64 DISPUTE MEDIATION FEES.

	CJ-2011-6563:	\$10.00 ON	AC79 OCIS REVOLVIN AC81 LENGTHY TRIAL				
04-20-2012	s	-	HUNTER, BARBARA ELOISE	81444920	Apr 20 2012 3:52:06:180PM	-	\$ 0.00
	HUNTER/ ON	4-19-12/ BY	ESSFULLY SERVED/S PROCESS SERVER (018302672)	UMMONS		BARBARA E	LOISE
05-11-2012	DISPDWOP	1	ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY	81652154	May 11 2012 10:42:13:270AM	-	\$ 0.00
	MORRISSEY, TO RULE 9(A)	LINDA G: 0 (AS TO AL	DRDER OF DISMISSAL LMERICA FINANCIAL E	WITHOUT SENEFIT II	PREJUDICE EN NSURANCE COM	TERED PUR IPANY ONLY	SUANT ()
05-11-2012	ODISM	_		81655677	May 11 2012 1:34:55:397PM	-	\$ 0.00
	ORDER OF DI		OR FAILURE TO OBTA 1018464796)	IN SERVI	CE WITHIN 180 [	DAYS AS TO	DEF
05-16-2012	MOVAC	-		81699726	May 16 2012 12:59:08:910PM	Realized	\$ 33.00
		AYS AGAIN /J)(\$ 33.00)	VACATE ORDER OF E NST DEFENDANT ALLM 1018537334)				
05-16-2012		- COURT INF	ORMATION SYSTEM R	81699727 EVOLVINO	May 16 2012 12:59:08:970PM G FUND(\$ 25.00)	Realized	\$ 25.00
	CCADMIN02 COURT CLER	- K ADMINIS	TRATIVE FEE ON \$2 C	81699728 OLLECTIO	May 16 2012 12:59:08:990PM DNS(\$ 0.20)	Realized	\$ 0.20
05-16-2012		- COUNCIL O	N JUDICIAL COMPLAIN	81699729 ITS REVO	May 16 2012 12:59:09:010PM DLVING FUND(\$ 2	Realized 2.00)	\$ 2.00
05-16-2012		- COURT API	POINTED SPECIAL AD\	81699730 OCATES	May 16 2012 12:59:09:130PM (\$ 5.00)	Realized	\$ 5.00
05-16-2012	CCADMIN04 COURT CLER	- RK ADMINIS	STRATIVE FEE ON COL	81699731 LECTION	May 16 2012 12:59:09:180PM S(\$ 0.50)	Realized	\$ 0.50
05-16-2012	S	-	ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY	81701213	May 16 2012 2:00:47:070PM	-	\$ 0.00
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	<u> Document /</u>	<u>4vailable (#</u>	1018330824)				

http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/GetCaseInformation.asp?number=CJ-2011-6563&d... 6/18/2012

Case 4:12-cv-00345-GKF-tlw Document 2 Filed in USDC ND/OK on 06/19/12 Page 38 of 38 OCIS Case Summary for CJ-2011-6563- BURNIDGE, JOY K v. HUNTER, BARBARA ... Page 4 of 5

SERVICE WITHIN 180 DAYS AGAINST ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT; PLAINTIFF HAS SHOWN GOOD CAUSE BY DEMONSTRATING SERVICE WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE **REQUIRED 180 DAYS** May 16 2012 05-16-2012 ACCOUNT \$ 0.00 81699734 12:59:29:760PM RECEIPT # 2012-2360516 ON 05/16/2012. PAYOR:DOUG ELLIOTT LAW OFFICE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID: \$65.70. LINE ITEMS: CJ-2011-6563: \$33.00 ON AC01 CLERK FEES. CJ-2011-6563: \$0.70 ON AC31 COURT CLERK REVOLVING FUND. CJ-2011-6563: \$5.00 ON AC58 OKLAHOMA COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES. CJ-2011-6563: \$2,00 ON AC59 OKLAHOMA COUNCIL ON JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS REVOLVING FUND. CJ-2011-6563: \$25.00 ON AC79 OCIS REVOLVING FUND. ALLMERICA FINANCIAL May 23 2012 05-23-2012 EAA \$ 0.00 BENEFIT INSURANCE 81768171 1:42:10:853PM COMPANY ENTRY OF APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY (JOHN BOWLING ENTERS AS COUNSEL - COVERSHEET ATTACHED) / CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 🖹 Document Available (#1018542321) May 23 2012 05-23-2012 DWP HUNTER, BARBARA ELOISE 81769793 \$ 0.00 2:30:07:563PM DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE OF DEFENDANT HUNTER ONLY AS IN BARBARA ELOISE HUNTER, DEF ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY BY PLF ATTY 国Document Available (#1018542064) May 23 2012 05-23-2012 DISPCVDMWP \$ 0.00 1 HUNTER, BARBARA ELOISE 81769823 2:31:20:203PM DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE ALLMERICA FINANCIAL May 23 2012 \$ 0.00 05-23-2012 O BENEFIT INSURANCE 81769881 2:54:30:473PM COMPANY ORDER VACATING DISMISSAL FOR FAILURE TO OBTAIN SERVICE WITHIN 180 DAYS AGAINST DEFENDANT ALLMERICA FINANCIAL BENEFIT INSURANCE COMPANY 国Document Available (#1018542060) Jun 1 2012 \$ 0.00 06-01-2012 MO 81855673 4:31:03:600PM JOINT MOTION TO STAY PRECEEDINGS/ A TO J / 国*Document Available (#101<u>8639444)</u>* Jun 4 2012 \$ 0.00 06-04-2012 CTFREE 81864955 2:34:27:647PM MORRISSEY, LINDA G: ORDER ENTERED GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO STAY PROCEEDINGS IN PART: THIS ACTION IS STAYED FOR NINETY (90) DAYS Jun 8 2012 4:09:20:753 Fally Howe Smith, Court Clerk, for Tulsa County, Oklahoma, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct and full 06-08-2012 O 81924314 ORDER (SEE MINUTE ABOVE) copy of the instrument herewith ser out as appears on record in the Court Clerk's Office of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, this 国Document Available (#1018731405) JUN **1 8** 2012

Report Generated by The Oklahoma Court Information System at June 18, 2012 15:17 PM

Deputy http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/GetCaseInformation.asp?number=CJ-2011-6563&d... 6/18/2012